

Traumatic Brain Injury Fact Sheet

North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities & Substance Abuse

The Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities & Substance Abuse Services (DMH/DD/SAS) oversees the state's public system of services to persons with mental illness, developmental disabilities and addiction disorders.

The Division's mission is that North Carolina DMH/DD/SAS will provide people with, or at risk of, mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance abuse problems and their families the necessary prevention, intervention, treatment, services and supports they need to live successfully in communities of their choice.

Where does Traumatic Brain Injury fit into the Division?

North Carolina General Statutes include traumatic head injury in their definition of developmental disability. A developmental disability is defined as a severe, chronic disability of a person which:

- Is caused by a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments;
- Occurs before the person is the age of 22 years, *unless the disability is caused by a traumatic head injury and is sustained after the age of 22;*
- Is likely to continue indefinitely;
- Results in difficulties in three or more areas of major life activities such as self-care, communication; living independently; learning; mobility; and working; and

What types of support are available?

In North Carolina support is available for eligible individuals of all ages. Support is based on two basic processes:

- Person-centered planning explores what an individual's needs are and ways to address these needs. Some examples of services include in-home support, residential services, and assistance finding a job.
- Case management includes assessing individual needs, referring to resources in the individual's community, and coordinating and monitoring support services involved.

How do I access support and services?

By contacting your mental health center's (referred to as local management entity or LME) referral and information line.

Intake coordinators will ask questions to determine the individual's needs and urgency. They may ask for medical records documenting the traumatic brain injury. This will help determine eligibility to receive services.

To locate your local management entity or area program, visit the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services [website](#) or call: 919-715-5989.

Are there other brain injury resources available in North Carolina?

- To find out about resources, contact the Brain Injury Association of North Carolina (BIANC). The BIANC is a statewide non-profit agency. It is committed to making a difference in the lives of persons with a brain injury and their families. Support groups across the state offer opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances. There are four regional family and community support offices of BIANC across the state of North Carolina.
- ***The Family Hotline with BIANC is 1-800-377-1464. Web site: www.bianc.net***
 - Family and Community Support Office
At Charlotte Institute of Rehabilitation
1100 Blythe Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28203
Phone: 704-355-1502
 - Raleigh Family and Community Support Office
133 Fayetteville Street Mall, Suite 310
Raleigh, NC 27601
Phone: 919-833-9634
 - Southern Triad Family and Community Support Office
1701 Westchester Drive
Suite 416, Box 7
High Point, NC 27262
Phone: 336-885-3307
 - Eastern Carolina Family and Community Support Office
202 East Arlington, Suite T
Greenville, NC 27834
Phone: 252-439-1900